

*Descriptions of new species of Heteromorous Coleoptera, with  
synonymical notes; by CHAS. O. WATERHOUSE.*

*Ceropria madagascariensis, Dej. MS.*

In the British Museum there are specimens with this name attached. They agree well with Fairmaire's description of *C. Coquerellii*, (Ann. Soc. Fr., 158), except that the interstices of the striae of the elytra are said to be "fere planis," and the fourth interstice "reliquis paulo angustiore."

In the Museum specimens the interstices are distinctly convex, (the striae being very strong), and I can perceive no difference in the width of the interstices. Should there prove to be two species, it may be convenient to adopt Dejean's name.

Hab. Madagascar, (*Crossley*). B.M.

*Meloe compressipes, n. sp.*

Ceruleus, subtus nigro-ceruleus, capite crebre fortiter punctato, vertice canaliculato. Antennis articulis tribus apicalibus atris. Thorace longitudine haud latiori, supra plano, crebre fortiter punctato, antice omnino rotundato, postice paulo angustato, lateribus rectis; basi leviter emarginato, disco fortiter canaliculato. Elytris thorace paulo latioribus, at  $2\frac{1}{4}$  longioribus, postice paulo ampliatis; fortiter longitudinaliter rugatus, margine interno regulariter arcuato. Abdomine confertim minus fortiter punctato, segmento ultimo et penultimo supra medio fere impunctato. Pedibus compressis.

Long. (sine abdom.), 9 lin.

Resembles *M. Chevrolati*, Fairm., but differs in having the thorax rounded in front; in having the antennae thickened towards the apex, the apical joint being large and a little longer than the two preceding joints taken together. The head is very strongly and thickly punctured; the thorax is more strongly but rather less thickly punctured. The elytra are covered with strong rugae which are longitudinally confluent; the internal border is gently arcuate, (and not angulate as represented in the figure of *M. Chevrolati*).

Hab. Madagascar. B.M.

*Zonitis nigripes*, n. sp.

Obscure-testaceous ; ore, antennis, pectore, pedibus elytrorumque apice nigris. Capite nitido, subtiliter, punctulato. Thorace nitido, obsolete punctulato, longitudine vix latiori, ante medium rotundato angustato, postice vix angustato. Elytris thorace duplo latioribus, breviter pubescentibus, confertim subtiliter punctatis, singulis costis tribus vix perspicuis ornatis.

Long.  $7\frac{3}{4}$  lin., lat.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lin.

Head a little narrower than the thorax, rounded behind the eyes. Antennæ long, reaching to the middle of the elytra. Thorax gently convex, with a slight impression in the middle near the posterior margin. Elytra with the shoulders rounded, with the apical fifth black ; each with three obsolete costæ, the first and third abbreviated.

Hab. Madagascar. B.M.

*Zonitis purpureipennis*, n. sp.

Viridi-aureus, violaceo-micans. Elytris purpureis, parce fortiter punctatis. Abdomine cupreo-micanti. Long.  $6\frac{1}{2}$ –8 lin.

Golden-green, with deep blue reflections. Head irregularly punctured. Antennæ long, blue, with the apex dull black. Thorax scarcely longer than broad, much narrowed in front of the middle, flattened above, shining-blue, sparingly and obscurely punctured in front, with a central channel and three punctures on each side of it strongly impressed. Scutellum golden-green. Elytra broad, slightly convex, bright purple, shining, with large punctures scattered over the surface. Coxæ black ; legs blue.

Hab. Australia, Victoria. B.M.

*Zonitis violaceipennis*, n. sp.

Niger, nitida ; elytris violaceo-purpureis. Long. 6 lin.

Head very long and narrow, nearly impunctate, scarcely narrower behind the eyes. Thorax a little longer than broad, very slightly convex, not punctured but with a strong central channel and a round fovea on each side of it behind the middle ; sides nearly parallel behind, gradually narrowed in front. Elytra broad, with deep punctures irregularly scattered over the surface.

Hab. Swan River. B.M.

This and the preceding species are very closely allied. They both have purple elytra, but the colouration in other respects is different; the punctuation of the elytra in the present species although still sparse is less so than in the preceding species. The head in *Z. purpureipennis* is broadest across the eyes, and obliquely narrowed behind, whereas in the present species the sides are nearly parallel. The thorax in the former is flattened above, suddenly narrowed in front, but in this it is gently convex, and gradually narrowed in front.

The males of both species have the penultimate segment of the abdomen deeply triangularly emarginate, and the last segment excavated.

*Zonitis tricolor*, Le Guillou, (1844).

This is a common species which has the elytra æneous with the base yellow. I am convinced, however, that the *Z. æneiventris* of Redt., (Reis. Novara), is only a variety having the elytra entirely yellow. Both forms are received from Melbourne, Moreton Bay, &c.

*Zonitis flaviceps*, n. sp.

Nigrescens, sat nitidus; capite flavo; elytrorum basi marginibusque anguste flavo-piceis. Long.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lin.

Head triangular, yellow, broadest at the posterior angles, not very thickly punctured, with a longitudinal impressed line in front. Thorax black, shining, gently convex, narrowed slightly behind, more so in front, as broad as the head, not visibly punctured, with a longitudinal impressed line behind. Scutellum rounded at the apex. Elytra one-third broader than the thorax, parallel, pitchy-black, very thickly and somewhat strongly punctured, the extreme base and the lateral margins dirty-yellow. Underside of the body and legs pitchy-black; claws pitchy.

Hab. Swan River. B.M.

NOTE.—I have just had occasion to refer to Blanchard's figure and description of *Bolitophagus angulifer* from New Zealand. It appears to me to be without doubt the insect described by Fabricius as *Dermestes scaber*, (the type of which is in the British Museum), and known in our catalogues as *Pristoderus scaber*.

*Opatrum serricollis*, Walker, belongs to the genus *Bradymerus*, (Bolitophaginæ).

*Rygmotus pedinoides*, White, as figured and described by Blanchard, (Voy. Pol. Sud.), has little in common with White's insect which I have already recorded as belonging to the *Hydrophilidæ*; Blanchard's insect appears from the figure to belong to the *Helopidæ*.

*Tanychilus metallicus*, White, as figured and described by Blanchard is an *Amarosoma*, (*Helopidæ*). *Tanychilus* of Newman belongs to the family *Cistelidæ*, and as the genus was well known to White, (Newman's types being in the Museum), it would seem highly probable that Blanchard's insect is quite distinct from White's, especially as we possess a species of *Tanychilus* from New Zealand, which agrees very nearly with White's description.

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